

LEWISTON CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING & BUDGET WORKSHOP AGENDA

**Thursday, April 18, 2013
City Council Chambers**

6:00 pm Special Meeting

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
Moment of Silence.

SPECIAL MEETING

1. Executive session pursuant to MRSA Title 1, section 405 (6)(A) to discuss a personnel matter.
2. Adjourn.

BUDGET WORK SESSION

Fire	pgs. 96-111
Social Services	pgs. 155-158
Debt	pgs. 179-182
Misc.	pgs. 183-200
Municipal Revenues	pgs. 19-24

LEWISTON CITY COUNCIL

MEETING OF APRIL 18, 2013

AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET:

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1

SUBJECT:

Executive session pursuant to MRSA Title 1, section 405(6)(A) to discuss a personnel matter.

INFORMATION:

The Maine State Statutes, Title 1, section 405, define the permissible grounds and subject matters of executive sessions for public meetings.

APPROVAL AND/OR COMMENTS OF CITY ADMINISTRATOR:

Entering into executive session is permitted and defined under Maine State Statutes.

EAB/kmm

REQUESTED ACTION:

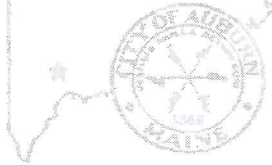
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To enter into an executive session pursuant to MRSA Title 1, section 405(6)(A) to discuss a personnel matter.

City of Auburn, Maine

"Maine's City of Opportunity"

Finance Department



TO: The Honorable Mayors and City Councils of Auburn and Lewiston

FR: Joint Agency Subcommittee

DT: April 2, 2013

RE: Joint Agency Subcommittee Report

Background Information

The City Councils of Auburn and Lewiston voted to create a four-member subcommittee to review the 2014 Joint Agencies' budgets. Two City Councilors from each municipality were appointed by each City's Mayor to serve on the subcommittee. Additionally, the subcommittee was staffed by each City's City Administrator and Finance Director. The joint agencies' requested budget documents were assembled by the City of Lewiston Director of Budget and Purchasing.

Subcommittee Members

Tizz Crowley – Auburn Ward 1 Councilor
Mary LaFontaine – Auburn Ward 3 Councilor
John Butler – Lewiston Ward 1 Councilor
Mark Cayer – Lewiston Ward 6 Councilor

Meeting Schedule & Agendas

- Wednesday, March 13, 2013 at Lewiston City Hall at 5:30 p.m. – reviewed presentations made by Lewiston–Auburn Transit Committee, Auburn-Lewiston Municipal Airport, and Lewiston-Auburn Economic Growth Council.
- Thursday, March 14, 2013 at Lewiston City Hall at 5:30 p.m. – reviewed presentations made by L/A Arts, Lewiston Auburn 9-1-1 Emergency Communications System, and Great Falls Cable TV.
- Thursday, March 21, 2013 at Lewiston City Hall at 5:30 p.m. – general question and answer period and formulation of Subcommittee's recommendation to their respective City Councils.

Joint Agency Subcommittee Summary Recommendation

Agency	Subcommittee Recommendation	Amount Requested	FY2013 Appropriation
A-L Municipal Airport	132,500	200,000	105,000
L/A Arts – Auburn	20,160	20,160	0
L/A Arts – Lewiston	23,960	23,960	23,960
Great Falls TV – Auburn	55,562	55,562	55,000
Great Falls TV – Lewiston	75,024	75,024	75,024
L/A Transit Committee	235,373	235,373	235,548
L/A Transit Comm. – Bus Reserve	40,000	40,000	40,000
L/A 911 Communication System	1,042,899	1,042,899	1,035,381
L/A Economic Growth Council	160,687	160,687	160,687
Total Funding – Auburn	1,687,181	1,754,681	1,631,616
Total Funding – Lewiston	1,710,443	1,777,943	1,675,600

General Discussion by Agency

Auburn-Lewiston Municipal Airport

Overall, the Subcommittee was pleased with the budget submitted by the A-L Municipal Airport. There was a lot of discussion about the FBO (Fixed Base Operator) operations that the airport has taken over since the previous FBO left. The airport manager explained that this is an industry standard way of operation. Councilor Cayer suggested the airport manager work toward self sufficiency and reducing the need for the two cities to subsidize the operation. Councilor LaFontaine was concerned about the large increase. Councilor Cayer and Councilor LaFontaine were both concerned about the large increase in number of employees so fast. They both asked the Airport Director to review this carefully.

Councilor Butler recommended funding at \$132,500 per City without capital. The subcommittee reached a 4-0 consensus to fund the Airport at \$132,500 as recommended by Councilor Butler. The capital items include a rotary broom, mowing deck and aircraft tug. The Airport Board may look at funding these capital items with surplus left over from completed projects.

L/A Arts

The Subcommittee requested additional information on Arts & Culture Lewiston Auburn, which was provided by the Director. Committee members expressed support for this effort which is designed to improve coordination and cooperation between various arts and culture organizations in the area. Councilor Crowley recommended that Auburn fund L/A Arts as requested, with Auburn's contribution be split as follows: 10% for a specific event, 80% of the remaining 90% for Auburn activities and the remaining funds to be used to recognize and support Arts & Culture Lewiston Auburn. This recommendation was not supported by other subcommittee members with the Lewiston members

indicating their discomfort with taking action on a proposal that was specific to Auburn. A 4-0 consensus was reached to fund L/A Arts as requested.

Great Falls TV

Historically, Great Falls has generally been provided 40% of the cable franchise fees received by each City. This appears to have been the result of a verbal agreement at the time Great Falls was established, or shortly thereafter. The Cities of Auburn and Lewiston currently receive a franchise fee from Time Warner Cable based on 2.5% of the cable revenues generated in each City. Time Warner adds these franchise fees to their customers' bills as a pass through to the Cities. There does not appear, however, to have been any formal action taken by the respective Councils to establish this financing mechanism, nor is there any formal agreement of any kind between the cities and Great Falls. In addition, there is some question as to the exact nature of Great Falls as an organization since there is no interlocal agreement and Great Falls is not a separately incorporated entity.

Administrations from both sides of the river were instructed to draft an interlocal agreement for Great Falls TV and to continue to negotiate a new franchise agreement with Time Warner. They were also asked to get clarification on the status of the two employees that work at Great Falls TV.

The Committee also recommended funding Great Falls under the historic formula.

Lewiston-Auburn Transit Committee

The Subcommittee was pleased with the budget options and increased ridership information presented by the Transit Committee.

Councilor LaFontaine asked the Transit Committee to look into working with the University and College systems to ask that they participate in a bigger way, noting the agreement between the University of Maine and the transit system in Bangor where the University pays a flat fee that allows faculty, students and staff to use the system by showing their ID cards. She asked for a follow-up from the Transit Committee and they agreed to provide an interim report in 3 months.

A 4-0 consensus was reached to fund the L-A Transit Committee at \$235,373 for the operating budget and have each City fund \$40,000 for future bus replacement.

Lewiston-Auburn 9-1-1 Emergency Communication System

The Director presented the budget and there was discussion about employee retention and how the agency has worked to improve the longevity of employees. The Director also gave an update on the shift from copper telephone lines to the newer technology, which was funded by a loan from the Cities of Auburn and Lewiston. This update will save approximately \$3,000 per month.

Councilor Mark Cayer commended the Director on her methodical approach to staff retention.

A 4-0 consensus was reached to fund the Lewiston-Auburn 9-1-1 Emergency Communication System at \$1,042,899.

Lewiston-Auburn Economic Growth Council

The Director presented the budget as status quo, but would be willing to submit a revised budget if necessary.

The majority of the discussion revolved around marketing. Council Cayer would like to see the marketing redirected; Councilor LaFontaine would like to see more marketing; Councilor Butler would like LAEGC to market themselves better by letting the public know what they do; and Councilor Crowley would like to see LAEGC define the businesses and firms that they have assisted.

A 4-0 consensus was reached to fund the Lewiston-Auburn Economic Growth Council at its requested level of \$160,687 for each community.

Future Consideration for the FY2015 Budget – By a consensus of the Subcommittee, it was recommended that LAEGC stay on their current path and over the next 6 to 9 months the cities of Lewiston and Auburn should work together with LAECG to determine what direction economic development will take in the future.